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1992/09/28

CONFIDENTIAL

Mon Sep 28, 92

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EXCISE

CHINA: "MAJOR SHAKE-UP" OF POLICE

The public security ministry has launched a "major shake-up" of its 1.2 million member police force in preparation for the introduction of a new ranking system in October, according to press reports. More than 9,000 officers are to be removed for incompetence, and another 200,000 have been ordered to attend classes.

Comment: After a hiatus of more than two years, the Chinese press earlier this year resumed publicizing selected cases of police corruption and abuse of authority as part of an effort to increase public awareness of the law and improve the regime's image.

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This report was produced by the Bureau of Intelligence and Research and is included in The Secretary's Morning Summary on the date indicated.

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